



TeamOCEAN



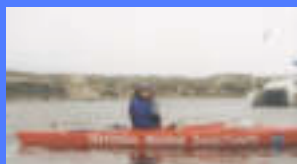
Welcome to TeamOCEAN

- ★Team
- ★Ocean
- ★Conservation
- ★Education
- ★Action
- ★Network



What TeamOCEAN does

We provide on the water interpretation and education for fellow kayakers and boaters on local wildlife. Along with this we try to educate ocean goers about proper wildlife viewing techniques in a friendly and compassionate manner.



MBNMS TeamOCEAN Goals

- ★ Goal: Promote understanding & appreciation of Marine Sanctuary resources & qualities
- ★ Goal: Protect Sanctuary resources, particularly sensitive wildlife species
- ★ Goal: Increase the Sanctuary's presence on the water
- ★ Goal: Eyes & ears for Sanctuary enforcement personnel--data collection on types & magnitude of problems, ability to report violations if you wish.

What We Expect of You

- You will have basic knowledge of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary & the natural history of the wildlife & habitats you'll encounter.
- You can explain your knowledge to an average person off the street, while being accurate & interesting.
- If you don't know something, you just say so.
- You are comfortable approaching & talking to strangers.
- You interact with people in a positive, informative, & tactful way.
- You will put your own safety first in every instance.

What We DON'T Expect of You

- You are NOT expected to rescue anyone.
- You are NOT expected to compromise your own safety or well-being for another person.
- You are NOT expected to persist in any interaction that becomes inflammatory, hostile, or uncomfortable.
- You will NOT be writing tickets, warning, punishing, or scolding anyone.

TeamOCEAN Training

- Kayak safety training will be scheduled once we know how many people will be joining this year. We can have weekend or weekday safety training days. Training takes about 6 hours.

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Everything You Need to Know

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Shoreward Boundary:
Mean High Tide

Seaward Boundary:
~ 25 miles offshore

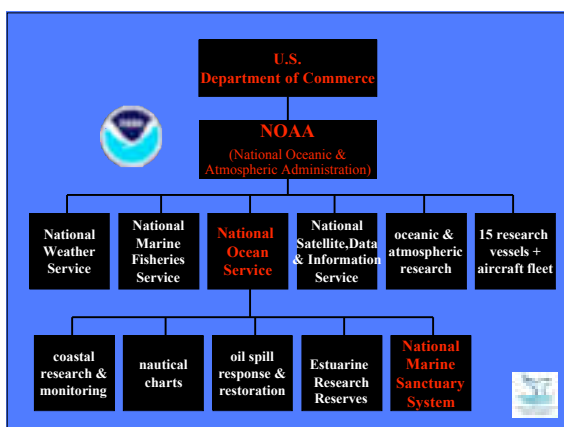
Shoreline Length:
276 statute miles

Area:
5,322 square statute miles
•size of Connecticut
•third largest in world

Deepest Point:
10,663 ft

NOAA

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration



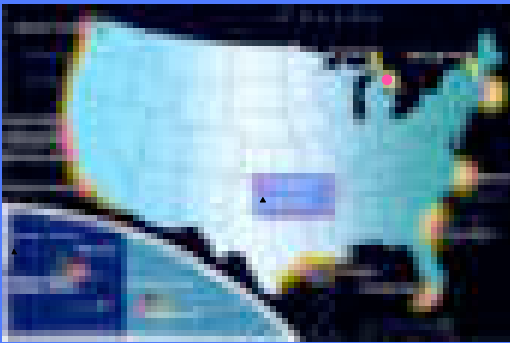


National Marine Sanctuary System



- ◆ 1972 National Marine Sanctuaries Act
- ◆ “identify & designate as National Marine Sanctuaries areas of the marine environment which are of special national significance”
- ◆ Goal: to provide comprehensive & coordinated conservation & management of these special areas

13 sanctuaries in the National Marine Sanctuary System





Three Marine Sanctuaries in Central CA:

- ◆ Cordell Bank NMS
- ◆ Gulf of the Farallones NMS
- ◆ Monterey Bay NMS

Reasons for Sanctuary Designation

- ◆ Nationally significant resources & qualities
- ◆ Overall ecosystem protection
- ◆ Strong community support
- ◆ To prevent offshore oil drilling

History of Sanctuary Designation

- 1972-- National Marine Sanctuaries Act mandates creation of marine sanctuaries
- Late 1970's-- Monterey Bay makes list for consideration
- 1983-- Monterey Bay dropped from list (oil interests)
- Local activism and lobbying
- 1988-- Congress passed bill ordering creation of MBNMS
- Public hearings for community input & comment
- 1992-- official designation of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Habitat Diversity of the MBNMS

- ◆ Estuaries
- ◆ Rocky Shores
- ◆ Sandy Beaches
- ◆ Kelp Forests
- ◆ Continental Shelf
- ◆ Submarine Canyons
- ◆ Deep Sea
- ◆ Open Ocean

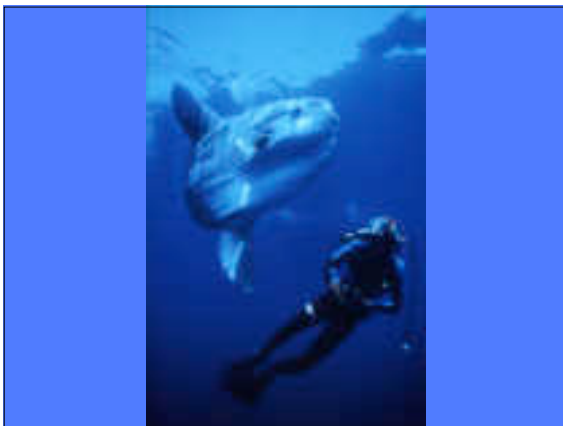







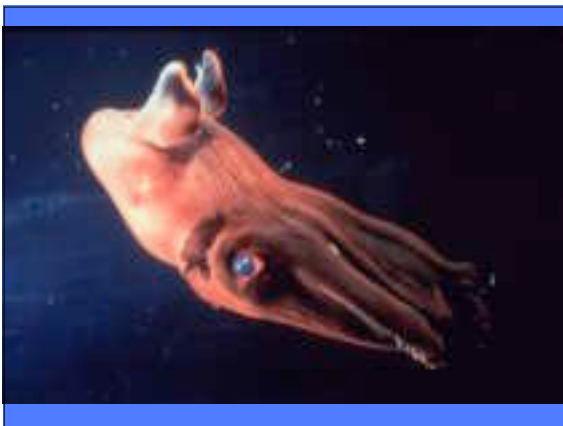






<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unique Submarine Canyon <p>10,663 feet deep</p> <p>close to shore</p> <p>diversity of animals</p>	
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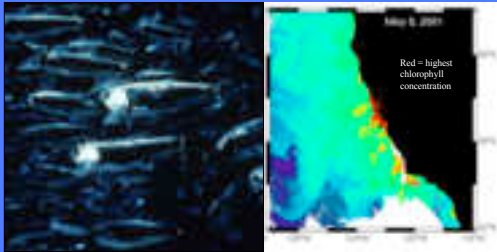


Biodiversity of the MBNMS

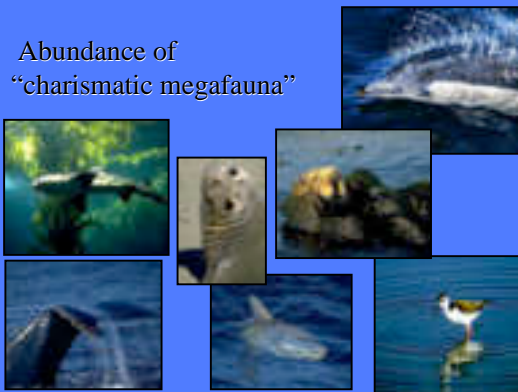
- ♦ **Marine Algae:** 450-plus species
- ♦ **Marine Invertebrates:** 31 phyla
- ♦ **Fish:** 345 species
- ♦ **Sea Turtles:** 4 species
- ♦ **Marine Mammals:**
26 species



- Remarkably productive ecosystem



Abundance of “charismatic megafauna”



• Permanent residents



Migratory species





Mandates of the MBNMS

1. Protect the environment, resources & qualities of the Sanctuary (through conservation & mgmt.)
2. Support & coordinate scientific research & monitoring.
3. Enhance public awareness, understanding, appreciation, & wise use of the marine environment
4. Multiple Uses: Facilitate all public & private uses of the area's resources that are legal & compatible with the primary goal of resource protection.

“Multiple Uses”



Sanctuary Programs

What do we do?

- Resource Protection
- Research & Monitoring
- Education, Outreach & Community Relations

Resource Protection Activities

Goal: to reduce or prevent detrimental human impacts to the Sanctuary

- Regulations, enforcement & permitting
- Water Quality Protection Program
- Emergency Response

MBNMS Regulations

1. Exploring for or developing oil, gas or minerals is absolutely **prohibited** within the Sanctuary. There are no exceptions & no permits can be given.

(except you can take small amounts of jade from Jade Cove)



Why?

- Possibility of pollution by oil or other chemical wastes involved in drilling process
- Possibility of catastrophic spill or blowout from drill or pipeline
- Associated development on land
- Importance of scenic views
- Economically, tourism revenues exceed oil revenues over the long term.

...Regulations...

2. No discharging or depositing any material into the water from within the Sanctuary. (Or from outside the Sanctuary if the material subsequently enters the Sanctuary & causes harm.)

- There are a few exceptions (ie. allowed): bait, fish parts, gray water from routine vessel operations, marine toilet contents (regulated by state), engine exhaust
- With appropriate federal permits, the following can be discharged into Sanctuary waters:
 - treated municipal wastewater
 - clean dredge material



....Regulations...

3. No drilling into, dredging or otherwise altering the seabed; no constructing or abandoning structures or materials on the seabed.

- Exceptions:
 - anchoring vessels,
 - repairing docks piers & jetties,
 - installing navigation aids,
 - Impacts from fishing or aquaculture operations



... Regulations...

4. No "taking" any marine mammal, sea turtle, or seabird.

- "Take" includes: harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, injure, feed, restrain, or COMMIT ANY ACT THAT CAUSES DISTURBANCE
- Bottom line: Don't change the animal's behavior.
- This regulation is redundant with other protective laws (ESA, MMPA, MBTA), but authorizes higher penalties than the others.



Why?

- Disturbing marine mammals & birds may:
 - Deprive them of needed rest
 - Interrupt or prevent feeding, causing them to lose energy
 - Force them to burn precious energy by fleeing
 - Force them to burn precious energy by getting wet (increased metabolic costs of thermoregulation in cold water)
 - For mammals, disturb nursing or mother-pup bonding
 - For birds, leave seabird eggs and/or chicks exposed to elements & predation

...Why...

- These impacts can weaken animals, potentially causing death by stress, starvation, or disease.
- The most sensitive marine mammals here are:
 - Sea otters resting in kelp,
 - mother otters with pups,
 - harbor seals hauled out
- Seabirds are most sensitive when nesting.



...Why...

- Do not change the animal's behavior.
 - If an animal looks in your direction and appears alert or fidgety, this is a warning sign. You are too close, & should quietly back away.
- Stress respect for the animals & letting them live their lives naturally.

Behaviors of Disturbed Pinnipeds



1. Look at you
2. Head alert (lift head)
3. Flush into water



If already in water, will
dive & swim away
from you when
disturbed.

Behaviors of a Disturbed Otter

1. Looks directly at you
2. If was resting, begins "fidgeting" or rolling
3. Periscopes (head & torso elevated above water, hind end underwater, looking at you)
4. Swims away from you on its back
5. Dives and swims away



Regulations



5. Flying aircraft below
1000 ft. is prohibited
within 3 miles from shore
in the red zones.

-- Note: most of Monterey
Bay is free from overflight
restrictions

Low flight is restricted over
Elkhorn Slough

Why?

- Marine mammals & seabirds, especially during mating/nesting seasons, can be extremely sensitive to the disturbance of low-flying aircraft.
 - Pinnipeds can be flushed from beaches, causing energy waste & possible mother-pup separation.
 - Seabirds can be flushed from nests, causing energy waste & leaving eggs or chicks unincubated and unprotected from predators.





Regulations

6. "Motorized personal watercraft" (Jetskis) are prohibited within the Sanctuary, except within 4 designated zones
- "Motorized personal watercraft" defined as a motorized vessel up to 15' long which can carry 1 or 2 people
- Many common personal watercraft are larger, & thus are unregulated (no restrictions).

Why?

- Jetskis threaten the Sanctuary's biological resources more than other boats, because they can go faster & get closer to shore & offshore rocks where sensitive species congregate
- Possible disturbance of marine mammals, seabird colonies, kelp beds
- Possible danger to other Sanctuary users, such as divers & surfers
- Aesthetic disturbance
- Two-stroke engines cause more water pollution



MBNMS Regulations

7. No chumming for great white sharks



Why?

- Danger to other human users of the Sanctuary, such as surfers, divers.

MBNMS Regulations

8. No moving, removing, or injuring an historical resource within the Sanctuary

- Shipwrecks, Native American sites





- Efforts to improve harbor & marina water quality



- Efforts to reduce agricultural runoff & pollutants



- Of the Sanctuary's 7000 mile² watershed, 50% is used for agriculture or grazing.



- Prevent nitrate buildup
- Minimize soil erosion
- Reduce sedimentation in streams
- Decrease pollution by agricultural chemicals



- Efforts to reduce polluted urban runoff





Storm
Drains.....



...lead straight
to the ocean.

Make the
Connection!

Volunteer Monitoring: **Urban Watch**

Goal: To monitor storm drains for urban runoff pollutants

Results:

- ♦ detection of high levels of detergents
- ♦ targeted preventative education program



Permit & Enforcement Activities

- Enforce MBNMS regulations
 - NOAA Law Enforcement Agents, Bob Yerena & Roy Torres
 - Other agencies can enforce our regs, eg: USF&WS, CDF&G wardens
- Evaluate applications for permits to allow prohibited activities in special circumstances (activity can have no substantial long-term adverse impacts)
- Review some permits given by other agencies, eg: wastewater discharge permits, harbor dredging permits

Resource Protection & Permitting

- Deal with human threats, problems, & “hot topics” in the Sanctuary. Examples:
 - Should CalTrans be allowed to dispose of landslide sediment in the Sanctuary?
 - Should telecommunications companies be allowed to install fiberoptic cables in the Sanctuary seafloor?
 - Should the Sanctuary develop policies on desalination plants & seawalls?

Research Activities

- ◆ Coordinate research on issues that will aid in wise management of Sanctuary resources
- ◆ Identify information gaps
- ◆ Develop collaborative studies to improve understanding
- ◆ Interpret research to decision-makers & the public

Research

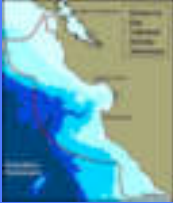
- ◆ Assess Sanctuary health with long-term monitoring programs
 - Beachcast seabirds & marine mammals
 - Aerial kelp canopy surveys
 - Pelagic surveys for birds, krill, whales
 - Largescale "Ecosystem Monitoring" plan (SIMoN)





Davidson Seamount Exploration

May 2002



Venus flytrap
anemone

Toadfish



Education & Community Outreach Activities

- Goal: to promote understanding & stewardship of the Sanctuary



...Education...

- Education targeted at particular users or threats
 - TeamOCEAN Kayaker Outreach
 - Urban runoff/watershed/storm drain education
 - LiMPETS monitoring
- Outreach to General Public
 - Brochures
 - Signs & exhibits
 - Future visitor centers

